AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A pressure relief arrangement for a housing including two housing portions comprising:

a sealing member disposed between the two housing portions;

first means for applying compressive sealing force between the two housing portions; and

second means operative with said first means and independent of said sealing member such that the first means applies the compressive sealing force between the two housing portions solely through said second means for responding to overpressure within the housing, said second means comprising at least one disc-shaped member being loaded in shear and becoming disintegral in response to the overpressure exceeding a predetermined value, said disc-shaped member having predetermined circumferentially arranged portions of reduced cross section.

Claims 2 and 3 (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The pressure relief arrangement of claim 1~~3~~ wherein said first means and said rupture disc members are dimensioned and assembled to focus applied forces in a predetermined manner to said rupture disc members.

5. (original) The pressure relief arrangement of claim 1 wherein said first means includes third means for focusing applied forces to said second means.

6. (previously presented) The pressure relief arrangement of claim 5 wherein said first means further comprises fourth means for aligning said first, second and third means.

7. (currently amended) A pressure relief arrangement for a housing comprising: first and second housing portions, a sealing member disposed between the two housing portions, first means for applying compressive sealing force between the two housing portions and second means independent of said sealing member for responding to overpressure within the housing, said second means cooperating with said first means such that the first means applies the compressive sealing force between the two housing portions solely through said second means, said second means comprising at least one disc-shaped member being loaded in shear and becoming disintegral in response to the overpressure exceeding a predetermined value, said disc-shaped member having predetermined circumferentially arranged portions of reduced cross section.